Application No.: 10/810,213

Amendment Dated June 5, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 9, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A folding mechanism comprising:

a fixed member having a plurality of fixed cams disposed on a side face thereofof the fixed member;

a movable member arranged for rotation with respect to the fixed member having a plurality of movable cams disposed on a side face thereof of the movable member in confronting relation with the fixed cams, the movable cam being formed of a protruded portion and sloped portions extended to the left and right; and

a spring for urging the movable member or the fixed member such that the movable cams and the fixed cams are brought into resilient contact with each other;

wherein

a first set of the movable and fixed cams form an inner camming unit, and

a second set of the movable and fixed cams form an outer camming unit positioned circumferentially around the inner camming unit;

wherein the movable member and the plurality of movable cams are formed solidly; and

wherein, at a position that the movable cam opens over 180° from the closed position, the fixed cam is held in resilient contact with the sloped portion of the movable cam so that a further force is applied to open the movable cam.

2. (Previously Presented) The folding mechanism according to claim 1, wherein

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the plurality of fixed cams and movable cams of the inner and outer camming units are each disposed in symmetrical positions with each other.

3. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus comprising:

a folding mechanism which comprises a fixed member having a plurality of fixed cams disposed on a side face thereofof the fixed member, a movable member arranged for rotation with respect to the fixed member having a plurality of movable cams disposed on a side face thereofof the movable member in confronting relation with the fixed cams, the movable cam being formed of a protruded portion and sloped portions extended to the left and right, and a spring for urging the movable member or the fixed member so that the movable cams and the fixed cams are brought into resilient contact with each other,

wherein a first set of the movable and fixed cams form an inner camming unit, and a second set of the movable and fixed cams form an outer camming unit positioned circumferentially around the inner camming unit;

a fixed housing having at least one of an operating portion and a voice input portion disposed on an upper face thereof; and

a movable housing having at least one of a display portion and a voice output portion disposed on a surface;

wherein the fixed member and the movable member are mounted on the fixed housing and the movable housing, respectively or vice versa

wherein the movable member and the plurality of movable cams are formed solidly; and

wherein, at a position that the movable cam opens over 180° from the closed position, the fixed cam is held in resilient contact with the sloped portion of the movable cam so that a further force is applied to open the movable cam.

4. (Previously Presented) The folding mechanism according to claim 1, wherein:

the inner and outer camming units are disposed on the fixed and movable members at respective inner and outer circumferential portions thereof such that each respective movable or

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fixed cam is disposed on one of the inner circumferential portion or the outer circumferential portion.

5. (Previously Presented) The electronic apparatus according to claim 3, wherein:

the inner and outer camming units are disposed on the fixed and movable members at respective inner and outer circumferential portions thereof such that each respective movable or fixed cam is disposed on one of the inner circumferential portion or the outer circumferential portion.

6. (New) The folding mechanism according to claim 1,

wherein each of the plurality of movable cams is rotatable more than 180° within a circumference without reaching a maximum height of said respective fixed cams within said circumference.

7. (New) The folding mechanism according to claim 3,

wherein each of the plurality of movable cams is rotatable more than 180° within a circumference without reaching a maximum height of said respective fixed cams within said circumference.